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Date: August 30, 2001

By *Shirley L. Davis*

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND
TRADEMARK OFFICE**

PATENT

Applicants: Yakov Epshteyn et al.

Docket No.: SFI 718D1

Serial No.: Not yet assigned

Parent Art Unit: 1763

Filing Date: August 30, 2001

Parent Examiner: S. MacArthur

TITLE: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
REMOVING A MATERIAL LAYER
FROM A SUBSTRATE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Box PATENT APPLICATION
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Madam or Sir:

Prior to an examination of the above-identified divisional patent application, please enter the following Preliminary Amendment.

In the Specification:

On page 1, under the heading "Cross-References to Related Applications", please replace the paragraph directly below beginning on line 10 with the following paragraph: